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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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November 10, 1982

Dear Gene:

In the course of reviewing the functioning of the interagency process in the arms control area, the President has become convinced of the critical importance of establishing a National Security Council Committee on Arms Control Verification and Compliance, which I will chair. (S)

It is my strong feeling that our future efforts in arms control must be founded on a clear understanding of the history of Soviet compliance, a fully coordinated approach to verification issues, and on a concerted attempt to resolve outstanding issues. We are establishing this mechanism to coordinate all aspects of verification and compliance, as these are matters transcending the responsibilities of any one agency. (S)

For reasons which I am sure you appreciate, it is critical that assessments of verification and compliance not be wholly the responsibility of the intelligence community, or unduly influenced by any one viewpoint or agency. Furthermore, if such a new mechanism is to work properly, a strong ACDA contribution will be required. It is essential that ACDA's Verification and Intelligence Bureau function well and exercise strong institutional leadership in framing that contribution for ACDA. Accordingly, it will be necessary to ensure that the Verification Bureau has the requisite support and the resources it needs, including personnel with a strong verification and compliance background, to perform this vital function. (S)

I hope you will move quickly to assure that ACDA's Verification Bureau will be strengthened to provide full and effective support to the new Verification Committee. (S)

Sincerely,



William P. Clark

NSC review completed.

The Honorable Eugene V. Rostow
Director, Arms Control and
Disarmament Agency
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20451

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